

Friendship

1988

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Graduate Theological Union

JAN 4 - 1989

友誼



TAIWAN
R. O. C.

CONSECRATION OF BISHOP JOHN CHIEN
FOURTH BISHOP OF TAIWAN



BISHOP'S MESSAGE

Being a new **bishop**, I am finding that it takes quite a while to adjust to this new job. The General Convention in the U.S.A. and the Lambeth Conference were a kind of 'crash course' for me, but **I am** still not fully certain about the exact role of a bishop.

So far, I see a need for me to be mainly a pastor and coordinator for the whole Diocese. But I am still puzzling over how our clergy can be helped in the move away from the 'one-man' role we have had in the past and towards the more democratic attitude of accepting, and indeed welcoming and encouraging, the participation in all Church matters of the laity, as real partners in its mission. The trust between clergy and laity needs to be greatly strengthened and our traditional 'clericalism' needs to be balanced by much greater participation of our Church people.

Some changes have begun already. First, because of the impact made on me by the General Convention and the Lambeth Conference, we are beginning to encourage more of our young people to take part in the Church's decision-making process, and four of them have been elected to Diocesan committees.

Secondly, because we are short of full-time seminarians, we are now trying to work out a system for non-stipendiary clergy, at least for the next few years.

A financial system needs to be established for our Diocese. Especially, one vital issue ahead of us is how the financial resources of our different churches may be more equitably shared among them.

On the subject of sharing, another crucial issue for me is how to coordinate the work of our clergy into a team-ministry. In such a numerically small diocese, the old idea of 'one radish, one hole' is not workable: we simply are not able to provide one priest for each separate small mission centre. We must combine our resources to use our manpower as effectively as possible.

The Church in Taiwan, also, has inherited in great measure the conception, all too common among Anglicans, of the Church's work as tending to be mainly pastoral, with very little done in the way of outreaching evangelism. This is fatal to Church growth. I guess it will take a long time and much effort to change our inward-looking approach to one of looking outwards for Church mission.

We are repairing and renovating our Diocesan Centre. In the meantime, my family and I are still occupying the deanery, while the new Dean and his family are in a church-owned apartment next to the Cathedral. Because of the shortage of labour, the work is progressing less quickly than we had anticipated but, when it is completed, I have great hopes that the building will become a real centre, and a power-house, for the Church's mission.

+ John Climen

On the evening of March 25 1988, the Very Reverend John Chi-Tsung Chien was consecrated as the fourth Bishop of Taiwan. The Presiding Bishop of ECUSA, the Rt. Rev. Edmond L. Browning, came from New York to be the Chief Consecrator. He was assisted by Bishops Luke H. S. Chhoa of Sabah, Tan Sri J. G. Savarimuthu of West Malaysia and Donald P. Hart of Hawaii.

The service of consecration and installation, with Holy Eucharist, took place in St. John's Cathedral, Taipei. The church was packed, with overseas visitors and guests from other denominations in Taiwan joining church members from all over this Diocese. Bishop Chhoa preached and combined choirs, trained and conducted by Fr. Michael Liu, led the singing.

A memorable moment was when, after the consecration itself, Bishop Browning presented to the congregation not just the new Bishop but Mrs. Grace Chien also, as together they began this new phase of their ministry and service.



Bishop and Mrs. Chien

A FRESH START

Soon after taking office, Bishop Chien held two important meetings to begin working out with the Diocese what its goals should be and by what means they might be reached. He told the clergy: 'The orientation and function of Taiwan Episcopal Church need to be reset.'

A three-day *EVANGELISM CONFERENCE* was organised by Fr. Samuel Liao at the Family Development Centre in Er Sui, Central Taiwan, in early April. Thirty people attended — the Bishop, six clergy, two clergy wives and some lay parishioners. One-third of the group came from Kangshan and there were several from the Cathedral parish.

Six talks, given by clergy and the ECW chairwoman on various aspects of evangelism, were followed by discussion. The conference concluded that evangelism was the first priority of the Church's mission and that it consisted in not only talking but doing as well. In the past, the only efforts made had been towards 'sowing the seed', with very little attention given to nurturing the spiritual growth of the hearers to the point where they would become followers of Christ and join the Church. (It takes time, Bishop Chien said, for people to become Anglicans — to get used to the traditions of the Church, e.g. the daily offices, and begin to appreciate their value.) More attention must be paid to Christian education in our kindergartens, of which we have so many (eight). These are probably the best channel for evangelism in Taiwan.

This was the first meeting of its kind here and the Bishop told the gathering that it was a very important beginning to his episcopate. Those who attended said that the conference had been very stimulating and that a similar meeting should be held annually.

(We hope to make use of the UTO 100th Anniversary special grant to fund a programme of training in evangelism, beginning next year.)

A *CLERGY RETREAT* was held at the Retreat Centre, Hsitou, later in April. This was in two parts:

On the first day, three addresses were given by *Fr. Lee, S. J.*, parish priest of the Holy Family Church (Roman Catholic) in Taipei. This church, with over 1000 members, is well-known throughout Taiwan, especially for the devotional character of Fr. Lee himself. He spoke on Pastoral Care, Evangelism and the Spiritual Life of the Clergy. On these he said:

Pastoral Care: The key point is to help people to *experience* the living God, in their joys and sustaining them through the hardships of life. People need not just a theological knowledge of God but a real relationship with Him. This experience can provide an anchor which will hold firm in any test or temptation.

Evangelism: The Gospel does not change but the strategy of Church mission needs to change in response to the changes in society. The pastor must be sensitive to these. Change costs something — it demands sacrifice — but it will bring potential, possibilities.

Spiritual Life: This is where the priest gets power and energy. Every priest needs to imitate Jesus Christ by *praying hard* before making any important decision, so as to do God's work. Fr. Lee pointed out that the programme of this particular retreat was really much more that of a conference and urged that our clergy have an annual retreat just for prayer, meditation and spiritual nurture.

It was a very significant step to have Fr. Lee to assist our clergy in this way, thereby strengthening interchurch cooperation as well.

On the second day, *Bishop Chien* presided over two meetings the purpose of which was to find ways to coordinate and harmonise the functions of the Diocese and the parishes, that is to say, of the Bishop and his clergy. The two meetings dealt with (a) the personal affairs of the clergy, e.g. appointments, and (b) financial management. The Bishop told the clergy: "I am you brother — if you want to see me, at any time, in any place, I will come."

Bishop Chien concluded the retreat by saying that the Holy Spirit had indeed been present during their time together and that they must ask Him to guide them in the future, since without the Holy Spirit we can do nothing.

LATER MEETINGS

A very special conference was held in August, also at Hsitou. This was a *FAMILY CAMP* organised by the Episcopal Church Women to bring together family members of all generations for prayer and discussion. The participants, more than fifty in number, greatly appreciated this opportunity — life in Taiwan is becoming busier and busier, with little chance nowadays for whole families to get together in this way.

The aim of this conference was a re-examination of the importance of family life. Discussions centred on the questions:

- What are the factors in the modern world that are threatening family unity?
- What is the Church's role in helping Christian families to experience the value of the Gospel and to implement our Lord's commandment, 'Love one another', in the family setting?
- How can the experience of Christian faith be a support to young people in the face of competition and other pressures from society?

Besides the more serious side of the Camp, there were lighter programmes, especially to involve the children. In one, the gathering was divided into small groups to prepare and present short plays on themes ranging from The Good Samaritan to Goldilocks and the Three Bears. These were greatly enjoyed by all.

A workshop on *CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CONCERNS*, with the theme "The Awakening of Modern Women", was held in October at the Presbyterian Bible College in Hsinchu, south of Taipei. Organised by the Ecumenical Cooperative Committee of the R.O.C. and sponsored by CCA, the meeting was attended by some 80 women — Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Methodists, Lutherans and Episcopalians, with some from the Mackay Memorial Hospital, Taiwan and Tainan Theological Colleges and the YWCA.

Speakers and discussion groups dealt with five topics: Protection of family health and well-being, Family and profession, The right concept of marriage, Parents and children, and Legal rights of women concerning property.

Our five delegates found the workshop very helpful. Since the Episcopal Church is a small minority here, they appreciated the chance to widen their outlook in what they felt was a big Christian family, as well as the very useful and practical knowledge they gained.



Previous convocations were held in February but this year's was postponed till after the Bishop's consecration and his long absence at the General Convention in Detroit and the Lambeth Conference. The 28th Convocation was held on August 21-23 at St. Paul's Church, Kaohsiung.

Important results include:

1. Legal recognition was given to *Trinity Hall Theological Institute*.
2. Also to receive legal recognition were two recently established preaching stations — the *Chapel of the Leading Star* in Taiping (Taichung County) and the new centre at Neihu. One former preaching station, St. Matthias' at Wanli, has had to be closed, since all the buildings in that area are of poor quality and deteriorating rapidly, transport facilities are inadequate, inhabitants have been moving out of the area to live and work in Taipei and, in any case, we have no priest available to station there. The church has therefore been formally de-consecrated and the name, *St. Matthias'*, transferred to the chapel and community centre at *Neihu*, where Canon Samuel Chen is in charge.
3. One of our missions has been recognised as a *self-supporting parish*. *All Saints', Kangshan*, now has more than 40 communicant members. Parishioners are mainly from amongst personnel at the airforce base in that area. They support the church very well — Fr. Stephen Hu has had a very successful stewardship campaign each year and contributions have been much greater than would normally be expected of people in this relatively low income bracket. *Kangshan* is the first parish in the south. It joins the Cathedral and Good Shepherd.
4. One historical event was the *reorganisation of the structure of the Diocese*. Amongst the changes made, appropriate status in this structure was given to the *Board of Governors*, which alone (and not the Bishop) is recognised by the R.O.C. Government as being responsible for all church property. *Church Departments and Committees* have been condensed: there are now three departments — Evangelism and Nurture, Worship and Service, and Church Women — and three committees — Sacred Ministry, Constitution and Canons, and Finance. *The Diocesan staff* comprises a Registrar, P. R. Officer, Publications Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, Accountant and two Administrative Assistants. Although it will take two years to effect the legal change, the Council of Advice will henceforth be regarded as a *Standing Committee*.
5. Much encouragement was given to the Convocation delegates to involve our *young people in the Church's decision-making*: from many nominated, two were elected to the Sacred Ministry Committee and two to the Finance Committee.
6. According to the reports from the churches, we need to be more concerned with strengthening our work with youth and in the kindergartens. Other needs expressed were for assistants for the priests, a *Christian Education Officer* and encouragement of and opportunity for the *lay people to participate more fully* in the work of the Church.

CCEA THEOLOGY COMMISSION

At the last meeting, in Sabah, of the Council, for the Church in East Asia, a Theology Commission was formed. It has seven members, the Chairman being the Rt. Rev. Luke Chhoa, Bishop of Sabah. Our representative is the Rev. David Chee.

In October the Commission met for the first time in Seoul, Korea, immediately before the CCEA House of Bishops' meeting. The Commission has yet to work out fully its particular role and responsibilities but part of its purpose, as recommended by the committee which it replaces, is to be a kind of 'think-tank' for the bishops of the East Asia region. At the Seoul meeting, the four main items discussed by the Commission were

- the ordination, and episcopacy, of women,
- the future of CCEA after Korea, the Philippines and Singapore-Malaysia each becomes an autonomous province,
- how the East Asia region is to respond to the declaration by the Lambeth Conference of the 1990's as a Decade of Evangelism, and
- the charismatic movement in the Anglican Churches in this region – the Commission will seek to provide a theological statement on the movement.

A plan of study on these issues was made and the Commission will meet again, in Taipei, in May of next year.

PLANS FOR TRINITY HALL

Cooperation with the Philippines

Whilst in Seoul, Fr. Chee had the opportunity to talk with Dr. Artemio Zabala, the Dean of St. Andrew's Theological Seminary in Manila, about our fledgling theological institute, Trinity Hall. 'Friendship, Summer 1987' described how a programme of theological studies for lay people was begun in the fall of 1984, with courses on various subjects held in different places in Taipei. As mentioned on Page 4, Trinity Hall was given legal status by the Convocation in August. It will soon have a 'home' in the Diocesan Centre.

An agreement is now being worked out between Trinity Hall and St. Andrew's Theological Seminary. Fr. Chee's plan is that students here at Trinity Hall would receive credits recognised by S.A.T.S. and then, at such time as they had reached an acceptable level, could transfer to S.A.T.S. to complete the requirements for a degree in theology. (Previously, our candidates for ordination have had to attend the Presbyterian colleges in Taiwan, which are not entirely appropriate for our needs.)

Non-Stipendiary Clergy

To alleviate our current shortage of clergy, coupled with our having no full-time theological students at present or on the horizon, the Bishop and clergy have been looking into the possibility of ordaining non-stipendiary priests, and also into the role and function of layreaders.

Trinity Hall has plans for the theological training, with a certificate at the completion of such a course, which will be the prerequisite for consideration for ordination.

Layreaders will likewise be trained by Trinity Hall, which, we anticipate, will also coordinate studies to be extended to people in southern Taiwan.

June 10 On this evening, St. Barnabas' Eve, Bishop Chien conducted his first ordination. Two candidates were presented at St. John's Cathedral.

Deacon *Matthew Lee Wen-Hui's* ordination came after a long delay caused by the passing away of Bishop Cheung. Good use was made of the intervening time; however, during which Deacon Lee received very good parish training in Atlanta, Georgia. He has now been ordained priest and is back at his former church, St. Mark's in Pingtung, as priest-in-charge.

Mr. *Philip Wong Yau-Ming*, from Hong Kong via the U.S.A., had been studying at Taiwan Theological Seminary before gaining experience in Taipei parishes. He was made deacon and returned to New York to join his family and to serve the Chinese Church in the U.S.A.

August 14 The vacancy left at St. John's Cathedral by the consecration of Bishop Chien was filled when the Rev. *Michael Liu Ting-Hua* was installed as the third Dean and Rector of the Cathedral parish. Dean Liu brings to his new work a great deal of enthusiasm, much musical ability and experience and a good sense of humour. His settings of the Chinese translation of the psalms are speedily being put into use, with the Cathedral organ.



Top: L to R: Deacon Philip Wong, the Bishop and Fr. Matthew Lee

Bottom: After the installation of the new Dean, the Very Reverend Michael Liu



1988 saw the 25th anniversary of the founding of Good Shepherd Church and a year-long celebration has been taking place, with various events and programmes. Funds were raised, by donation and from a bazaar in May, to carry out renovations to the church property and to produce a magazine for the occasion. On the actual foundation date, September 3, a festival Eucharist was held for the combined congregations, followed by a pot-luck dinner and a programme of entertainment. Beginning in October, a series of talks was given (in Chinese) on such subjects as 'Understanding your middle-school children', 'Happily Married?' and 'A Balanced Life'. In his sermon on the Sunday after the foundation day, Fr. Chee said that this must be the beginning of a new effort to take the work of the Church out into the surrounding community, as well as to bring these neighbours into the Church.

CHANGES AT THE DIOCESAN CENTRE

RENOVATIONS

This building, called 'Friendship House', is now 22 years old. It is a valuable property in the heart of Taipei, quite close to the Chiang Kai Shek Memorial (just a two-minute walk for our visitors) and about fifteen minutes' drive from the Cathedral.

Until this year, only basic maintenance had been carried out, from time to time. Damage to the exterior walls, caused by the earthquake in November 1986, made repairs essential but, because of Bishop Cheung's long illness and subsequent death, these were not organised. With the change of bishop, it became necessary also to reorganise the inside of the building to provide more living space for the new bishop's family, to free the Cathedral deanery for the new Dean and, very importantly, to accommodate the diocesan theological centre, Trinity Hall.

Partially funded by PBFWR and UTO grants, work began in May of this year. The repair and resurfacing of the exterior have been completed and the new finish is simple and attractive, with the name of our Church and 'Friendship House', in Chinese characters, down one side of the front wall. Renovation of the interior is still in progress. When completed, which we hope will be by the end of this year, the building will house:-

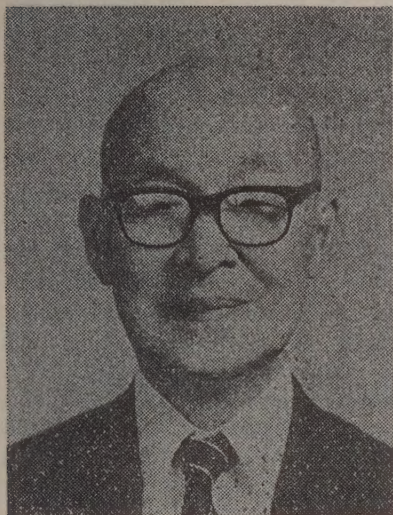
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|--------------------|--|
| 1st (ground) floor | — Main entrance and Chapel of the Epiphany |
| 2nd floor | — Reception area and offices for the Bishop and diocesan staff |
| 3rd floor | — Theological Centre: library and lecture room. Guest accommodation: bedrooms, bathrooms and a kitchen |
| 4/5th floors | — Residence for the Bishop and Mrs. Chien and their three college-age children. |

On top of the building, there is to be a roof-garden, partly for recreation and partly as insulation against the fierce heat of Taipei's summer sun.

PRAYING AND WORKING TOGETHER

One innovation made by Bishop Chien has been to plan his schedule for each month beforehand and to circulate this, together with prayer lists. The Anglican Cycle of Prayer for the month, translated into Chinese, and a list of prayer concerns for our own Diocese are sent to all clergy, vestries and members of the Bishop's Committee, asking them to pray for and participate in the work of the whole Church.

IN MEMORIAM



Mr. F. T. Ley, a senior and dedicated Anglican, passed away in Taipei on August 28 at the age of 86. His passing brought much sadness, particularly to the people of St. John's Cathedral parish, of which he had been a most faithful member.

Mr. Ley served the Church in many ways. From the time of his retirement from government office, he gave valued assistance to all the Anglican Bishops of Taiwan. He helped to establish St. John's and St. Mary's Institute of Technology, at Hsinpu, which last year celebrated its 20th anniversary. For many years he was a member of the Cathedral vestry, and also chairman of the Diocesan Education Committee. He did a great deal to strengthen ecumenical relationships and earned the deep respect of the other churches.

A memorial service for Mr. Ley was held in the Cathedral on October 15.

On October 16, after a long illness, the Rt. Rev. James Pong passed away in Hong Kong. He was 77 years old. As deacon and then priest he served for many years in Hong Kong, including as Rector of St. Paul's Church and as Archdeacon. At the beginning of 1971, he came to Taipei to be consecrated as the second Chinese Bishop of Taiwan.

During his ten years here, Bishop Pong did much to advance the work of the Church. He gave the clergy more freedom and opportunity to further their studies, with himself and abroad, and introduced non-stipendiary priests. He was deeply involved with education, as the second President of St. John's and St. Mary's Institute of Technology and as a board member of both Tunghai University and Tainan Theological Seminary, and the growth of our church kindergartens goes to his credit. He also worked hard to improve interchurch relationships and in June 1976 signed a historical contract with the Roman Catholic Church in Taiwan for mutual recognition of Baptism.

In January 1980, Bishop Pong retired to Hong Kong, where he spent much time and effort in reading and research. He has written a number of books on Christian theology.

A memorial service was held in St. John's Cathedral on November 5 and was attended by Mrs. Pong, who still lives in Hong Kong.



Thanks be to God for the work of these two people. May they rest in peace.

ABOUT PEOPLE

The Rev. *Ronald W. McBride* left Taiwan in July after 18 months as Chaplain to the English-speaking congregation at Good Shepherd Church. Fr. McBride made a special contribution to the life of Good Shepherd with his warmth, friendliness and compassion, and particularly in his interest in and love of children, for whom he did a great deal, organising the Sunday School, leading some of its activities and procuring materials, which he continues to send from afar. He returned to San Francisco with our love and gratitude.

Visitors: The Rev. *David E. Allen, SSJE*, from Boston, came to East Asia on sabbatical study leave. He was in Taipei for Bishop Chien's consecration and returned at the end of May for a week, to look at the work of the Church here. Fr. Allen was joined on his travels round our southern churches by two clergy from the Philippines: the Rev. *Benjamin Botengan*, PIM Coordinator for the CCEA, had been here before but for the Rev. *Romualdo Bayang*, our new Regional Coordinator, it was the first visit. Mr. *Edwin Ward*, England's PIM representative for our area, made an overnight stop in Taipei on his way to the CCEA meeting in Seoul. Two days later the Rev. *J. Patrick Mauney* arrived from New York's Episcopal Church Center, where he is Partner Officer for Asia and the Pacific in the World Mission Department. He spent five days meeting clergy round the island before also going on to the CCEA meeting in Seoul.

The Rev. *William Vun*, with his wife Lorna and son Isaac, recently returned to Malaysia to continue his ministry in the Anglican Diocese of Sabah. Fr. Vun had spent nine months in Taichung becoming more fluent in reading and writing Mandarin, since his primary language had been English. This additional training will help him to minister more effectively to the people of Malaysia.

Fr. Vun played an important part in the life of the English congregation at St. James' Church in Taichung. Although he was busy with studies during the week, he was always available to preach or celebrate on Sunday morning. He is an inspiring preacher and an effective teacher. During the last few months Fr. Vun conducted a weekly Bible Class for a multi-denominational group, most of whom attended St. James'. His discussions were always interesting and he never failed to provoke participation by his students. Upon his return to his home parish, St. Paul's, Labuan, Fr. Vun will be responsible for two congregations, both small but with great potential for growth. He has the qualities of a builder and leader and we wish him and his family Godspeed in their new undertaking. They endeared themselves to all at St. James' and they will be missed. (From Marge and Gene Dugan)

St. James' Church is about to suffer an additional loss with the departure, in mid-December, of Mr. *Eugene Dugan and his wife Marge*. We have much to thank God for in their faithfulness to the Church and their two years of witness and service to the people of Taichung. Mr. Dugan, an engineer on an assignment with General Dynamics, is a licensed layreader. In March 1987, he took on the responsibility for organising the weekly service for the English-speaking congregation at St. James'. He produced the service bulletins and was usually there to lead the worship and to introduce the guest preachers, or sometimes give the sermon himself. This meant that often the Dugans denied themselves the pleasure of joining weekend excursions around Taiwan.

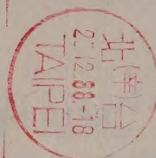
Gene comments: "Neither of us expected to be laboring this diligently in the Lord's vineyard, but it has been an exciting and challenging job (and sometimes a frustrating one) and it has been interesting to see how the Episcopal Church in another part of the world serves the Lord. It was of particular interest to witness the sadness and concern for Bishop Cheung and the joy and pleasure in the election of Bishop Chien."

At the same time that Fr. Vun left, St. James' was happy to welcome back *Dr. and Mrs. Alan Haslup*, who had been in the U.S.A. for a year on a 'working holiday'. Dr. Haslup is on the staff of Chang Hua Christian Hospital and he and Mrs. Haslup have been active supporters of St. James'. In fact, Dr. Haslup was pressed into service soon after his return, to preach on October 30. Moreover, he has indicated that he will be willing to take an active role in continuing the English service there.

Return to Sender if Undelivered

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Berkeley, CA 94709, U.S.A.

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